

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
Natural Resources Commission
Regular Meeting
September 10, 2008

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Commissioner, John Keshick III.

Roll call:

Commission: Commissioner, John Keshick III; Treasurer, Daugherty Johnson III; Secretary, William McNamara and Associate Commissioner, Phil Harmon.

NRD Staff: NRD Director, Doug Craven; Chief conservation Officer, Kevin Willis; Great Lakes Biologist, Stephen Lenart, and Administrative Assistant, Debra S. Browne.

NRD Staff Absent: Wildlife Biologist, Archie Kiogima and Inland Fisheries Biologist, Bill Parsons are excused from the meeting.

Public Comment: Opened at 6:03 p.m.

Public Comment: Closed at 6:08 p.m.

NRC reviewed the Agenda.

Motion made by Phil Harmon, Associate Commissioner to adopt the agenda as amended, Daugherty Johnson, Treasurer, supports.

4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant

Motion Carried

NRC reviewed the minutes of August 13, 2008 and August 23, 2008

Motion made by Daugherty Johnson, Treasurer, to approve the Minutes of August 13, 2008 and August 23, 2008 as amended, Phil Harmon, Associate Commissioner, supports.

4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant

Motion Carried

NRD Director's Report - Doug Craven, Director

- Leased Berg Property – NRD issued one (1) hunt period permit thus far – Daily permits are not being utilized properly as designed for daily usage.
- Tags – tribal members have been reading their Rules and Regulations and many know of the early season this year. Last week the department had a increase of tag requests and the department's paper supply was depleted, so as a result many members will receive their tags by mail this week.
- 2010 Budgets – Due date for budgets is Friday, September 12, 2008.
- Natural Resource Protection Statute – changes were made by Tribal Council in the Fines and Fees area.

- Forest Meeting – Forest certification, activities being conducted were discussed such as Emerald Ash Borer. Forest department were concerned that tribal members are not participating in meetings, it was discussed with the forest department that it is difficult to free up staff to attend many meetings that are conducted by the Forest Department. The NRD does not have the staff to attend the meetings or the funds to attend forestry meetings.
- Any word on posting the NRC position
- Tribal Code – Legal was checking whether or not the NRC has the authority to approve Emergency Orders. NRC may have to look up the minutes to find out when the motions were made to submit the Natural Resource Commission Statute to the Legislative for approval.

Motion made by Daugherty Johnson, Treasurer, to accept the Natural Resource Department Director's report as presented by Doug Craven; Phil Harmon, Associate Commissioner, supports.

4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant

Motion Carried

Motion made by Phil Harmon, Associate Commissioner, to seek immediate clarification from the Executive Branch on the status of outstanding legislation for the Natural Resource Commission and the Natural Resource Department on the Inland Consent Decree Rules and Regulations and License Regulations, William McNamara, Secretary supports.

4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant

Motion Carried

Motion made by Phil Harmon, Associate Commissioner, to seek clarification from the Executive Branch of Government on the approval process for Regulations, Rules and Policies for the Natural Resource Commission and the Natural Resource Department, John Keshick III, Commissioner supports.

4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant

Motion Carried

Conservation Enforcement Report – Kevin Willis, Chief Conservation Officer

- Bear River – LTBB member and a SSM member were ripping with treble hooks – looking for a report from the MDNR in the near future.
- LTBB Member going past the falls on the Bear River and spearing fish above the falls.
- Concerns have been expressed by the conservation officers regarding the early season upon us and tribal members have not sited in their rifles – there have been reports of members firing at deer and not hitting them to take them down. Next year in late August to allow tribal hunters a time and place to site in their firearms.

Motion made by Phil Harmon, Associate Commissioner, to accept the Natural Resource Department Conservation Enforcement report as presented by Kevin Willis; William McNamara, Secretary, supports.

4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant
Motion Carried

Great Lakes Fisheries Biologist Report - Stephen Lenart, Fisheries Biologist

- CORA Meeting at Bay Mills – not much on the Great Lakes we discussed.
- The new Work Skiff is on the property and can be inspected by the commissioners – the shaft is not long enough and will have to be refitted with an extension – Kim Thornton was asked to check into the situation and provide a quote for the extension.
- Lifter - Kenibeck is closing up shop and our lifter order is one of the last orders that is on their “TO DO” list, but we are sure that will get done.
- Policies – Apprentice Policy will need some work as far as the support portion of the policy, Grant portion can be part of the Apprentice program once one has completed the Apprentice program they could apply for the Grant Program. The budgets are due this week to the accounting department and monies will have to be figured into the program and extra monies will need to be sought from Tribal Council for the next years.
- Update on the Hatchery – requested quotes from 3 companies to do electrical work to run the pump testing, and we received one bid as of this date.
- Bell’s update – contract signed and Doug Craven will attend a meeting scheduled for 9-11-08 at Bell’s –

Motion made by William McNamara, Secretary, to accept the Great Lakes Fisheries report as presented by Stephen Lenart; Phil Harmon, Associate Commissioner, supports.

4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant
Motion Carried

Inland Biologist report – Doug Craven, Director and Bill Parsons, Inland Fisheries Biologist

- Wildlife Biologist Archie Kiogima and Inland Fisheries Biologist Bill Parsons made a trip to Leech Lake to buy wild rice – picked up the rice on Monday, returned on Tuesday – planted the rice today.
- Both Wildlife Biologist Archie Kiogima and Inland Fisheries Biologist Bill Parsons will be attending the NAFWS Great Lakes Regional Conference next week in Walker, MN.
- Biologist will be collecting deer heads for the 2008 season.
- Electro-Shocking of the Maple River is scheduled for Friday, September 12, 2008 in conjunction with LRB. Other Electro-Shocking sites and schedules were discussed.
- Patrick Hanson called and asked if tribes were interested in a surveying estimate on Mullet Lake in the spring of 2009.
- Elk season is opening up again on Friday, September 12, 2008 and Bear season opened today, September 10, 2008; so the biologist will be busy collecting data from animals harvested by tribal members.

Motion made by, Phil Harmon, Associate Commissioner, to accept the Inland Biologist report as presented by Doug Craven, NRD Director; John Keshick III, Commissioner supports.

4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant

Motion Carried

Break at 7:38 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 8:02 p.m.

Discussion was held on a name for the new NRD work skiff boat, and what protocol is known regarding the naming vessels. Naming the boat has been tabled until the next NRC meeting to be held on September 24, 2008.

Discussion was held on Bear Tags available in Management Units and the SSM request from Jason Grondin, SSM tribal member for additional LTBB Bear Tags that have not been issued to LTBB tribal members to be issued to SSM members.

Discussion was held on the 2010 Commission Budget and line items were discussed and a final budget was devised.

Discussion was held on the Natural Resource Protection Statute and reviewed the document that has been placed on the legislative agenda.

Discussion was held on the LTBB tribal properties availability to tribal hunters for harvesting game. Law Enforcement distributed a handout on the tribal properties that categorizes the properties according to hunting allowed or not allowed. The issue of the hunting properties will be tabled until the next Natural Resource Commission meeting to be held on September 24, 2008.

9:15 p.m. Bill Parsons arrives.

Discussion was held on Walleye as presented by Bill Parsons, Inland Biologist. 6-30-08 received a table from MDNR to change 10 walleye lakes requesting a response by 9-28-08 after 90 days. The information that was rationale for each change, along with references to supporting information letter from the MDNR was handed out for the commission to review. Recommendations from Tribal Biologists to proposed changes to Table 1 of the Consent Decree suggested by the MDNR.

Motion made by, William McNamara, Secretary, to prepare a written response to address proposed changes to Table 1 of the Consent Decree suggested by the MDNR; Daugherty Johnson III, Treasurer; supports.

4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant

Motion Carried

Discussion was held on Cross Village Launch/Access site.

Public Comment: Opened at 9:54 p.m.

Public Comment: Closed at 9:56 p.m.

Motion made by, Phil Harmon, Associate Commissioner, to adjourn the Natural Resource Commission meeting at 9:57 p.m. ; William McNamara, Secretary; supports.

4 Yes 0 No 0 Absent 0 Abstained 1 Vacant

Motion Carried

Next scheduled meeting will be held on September 24, 2008.

Approved:

William McNamara, Secretary

Date